

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

HISTORY I: COURSE 230

PROF. G. RUDE

THE FRENCH REVOLUTIONLectures

- 1 Why was there a revolution in France in 1789?
- 2 1789
- 3 Constitutions of the French Revolution
- 4 The fall of the Monarchy
- 5 The struggle of parties: Girondins and Jacobins
- 6 The Jacobin Dictatorship
- 7 Jacobins and sans-culottes
- 8 The fall of Robespierre
- 9 From Thermidor to Bonaparte
- 10 Historiography of the Revolution

Reading List

Articles are indicated by (A)
 Paperbacks are marked *

1. Ancien Régime

- *Behrens, C. B. A., The Ancien Régime
- *Cobban, A., History of Modern France, vol. I.
 Lough, John, An Introduction to Eighteenth Century France
- *Ogg, D., Europe of the Ancien Régime 1715-1783 (Fontana History of Europe)
- *Tocqueville, Alexis de, The Old Regime and the French Revolution
- (A) McManners, J., "France", in A. Goodwin (ed.), The European Nobility in the 18th Century

2. General Accounts

(i) Among useful introductory accounts are:

- *Cobban, A., History of Modern France, vol. I
- *Gershoy, L., The Era of the French Revolution 1789-1799
- *Goodwin, A., The French Revolution
- *Lefebvre, G., The Coming of the French Revolution (up to October 1789)
- *Rude, G., Revolutionary Europe 1783-1815, Part 2.

(ii) Longer, more detailed accounts which should be useful are:

- Hampson, N., A Social History of the French Revolution
- Lefebvre, G., The French Revolution, 2 vols.
- Palmer, R. R., The Age of the Democratic Revolution, vol. I,
 pp. 439-502; vol. 2.
- Sydenham, M. J., The French Revolution
- Thompson, J. M., The French Revolution

3. Causes

- Church, William F. (ed.), The Influence of the Enlightenment on the French Revolution (A set of essays in the Heath Series of Problems in European Civilization)
- Cobban, A., Historians and the Causes of the French Revolution (Hist. Assoc. pam.)
- Tocqueville, Alexis de, The Old Régime and the French Revolution
- Young, A., Travels in France during the Years 1787, 1788 and 1789
- (A) Davies, Alun, "The Origins of the French Peasant Revolution of 1789", History, vol. XLIX, Feb. 1964.
- (A) Rude, G., "The Outbreak of the French Revolution", Past and Present, No. 8, 1955

4. Revolutionary Parties, Revolutionary Government, Robespierre and the Terror

- Brinton, C., The Jacobins
 Lefebvre, G., The Thermidorians
 Palmer, R. R., Twelve Who Ruled (an account of the Committee of Public Safety)
 *Rose, R. B., The Enragés
 *Rude, G. (ed.), Robespierre
 Thompson, J. M., Robespierre and the French Revolution
 (A) Rude, G., "Robespierre", History Today, vol. XII, No. 4, April 1958
 (A) Soboul, A., "Robespierre and the Popular Movement", Past and Present, No. 5, May 1954

5. Sans-culottes and Peasants

- *Cobban, A., The Social Interpretation of the French Revolution
 *Rude, G., The Crowd in the French Revolution
 Soboul, A., The Parisian sans-culottes
 *Williams, Gwyn A., Artisans and Sans-Culottes
 (A) Cobb, R., "The Revolutionary Mentality in France", History, vol. XLV.
 (A) Cobb, R., "The People in the French Revolution", Past and Present, No. 15
 (A) Soboul, A., "The French Rural Community", Past and Present, No. 10, 1956.
 (A) Sydenham, M. J., "Louis XVI at Bay: The Tuileries, June 20, 1792", History Today, vol. XI, No. 8, August, 1961.

6. Biography

- Gershoy, W., Bertrand Barère, a Reluctant Terrorist
 Gottshalk, L. R., Marat
 Thompson, J. M., Leaders of the French Revolution
 Watson, S. J., Carnot
 Welch, O. J. G., Mirabeau

7. Historiography and Miscellaneous

- *Cobban, A., Historians and the Causes of the French Revolution
 *Rude, G., Interpretations of the French Revolution (Hist. Assn. pamphlet)
 *Barrington Moore, Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy, Peregrine, 1969
 *Brinton, C., The Anatomy of Revolution
 Elton, Lord, The Revolutionary Idea in France
 *Hobsbawm, E. J., The Age of Revolution, ch. 3.
 Palmer, R. R., The Age of the Democratic Revolution, vol. 1

8. Documents

- Stewart J. H. (ed.), A Documentary Survey of the French Revolution

Tutorial Topics and Essays

1. Estimate the importance of economic factors as causes of the French Revolution. [See Reading List: Sections Ancien Régime, Causes]
2. "The patricians started the revolution, the plebeians completed it." (Châteaubriand). Discuss. [See Reading List: Sections General Accounts, Causes, Sans-culottes]
3. Why did the Revolution continue after the adoption of the Constitution of 1791? [See Reading List: Sections General Accounts, Sans-culottes]

4. "The conflict between Jacobins and Girondins was a quarrel over personalities rather than principles." Discuss. [See Reading List: Sections General Accounts, Revolutionary Parties]
5. What was the Terror? What did it accomplish? [See Reading List: Sections General Accounts, Revolutionary Parties]
6. Why did the alliance between Jacobins and sans-culottes eventually break up? [See Reading List: Sections General Accounts, Sans-culottes]
7. "A bourgeois revolution." Was it? [See Reading List: Sections Sans-culottes (e.g. Cobban), Historiography and Miscellaneous]